HOUSE No. 2122

By Mr. Toomey of Cambridge, petition of Timothy J. Toomey, Jr. and others for legislation relative to the use of headlights on motor vehicles. Transportation.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PETITION OF:

Timothy J. Toomey, Jr. Gloria L. Fox

Robert F. Fennell Carl M. Sciortino, Jr.
Bradley H. Jones, Jr. Thomas P. Kennedy
Patricia D. Jehlen Shirley Gomes

Patricia A. Walrath Christopher J. Donelan

Barbara A. L'Italien John W. Scibak

In the Year Two Thousand and Five.

AN ACT FURTHER REGULATING THE USE OF LIGHTS ON MOTOR VEHICLES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

- 1 Section 15 of chapter 85 of the Massachusetts General Laws,
- 2 as appearing in the 2002 Official Edition, is hereby amended by
- 3 striking out lines 1 through 4 and inserting in place thereof the
- 4 following:—
- 5 "Section 15. Every vehicle, whether stationary or in motion, on
- 6 any public way, shall have attached to it a light or lights (i.e.,
- 7 headlight(s) and taillight(s)) which shall be turned on by the
- 8 vehicle operator so displayed as to be visible from the front and
- 9 rear during the period of one half-hour after sunset to one half-
- 10 hour before sunrise; provided, such lamps shall be turned on by
- 11 the vehicle operator at all other times when, due to insufficient
- 12 light or unfavorable atmospheric conditions, visibility is reduced
- 13 such that persons or vehicles on the roadway are not clearly dis-
- 14 cernible at a distance of five hundred feet, or the vehicle's wind-
- 15 shield wipers are needed."